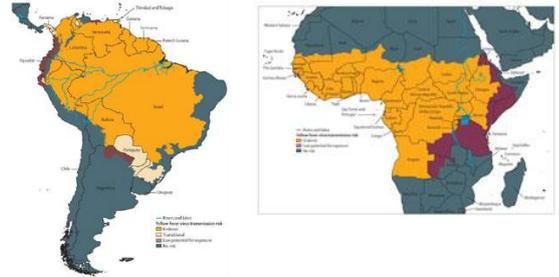


### 3 Easy Steps to avoid Yellow fever

- Get your vaccine early
- Get your vaccine from a doctor who has expertise with the vaccine
- Carry your international vaccination card when you travel



#### 1 Get your vaccine early

The vaccine certificate is valid ten days after immunization, for at least ten years. The Yellow Fever vaccine can interfere with other vaccines so the scheduling must be planned accordingly. Although this is a safe vaccine for most persons, the risks of vaccination are not zero.

##### Mild Side Effects

Most people will get a slight sore arm

2-10% may feel tired, headache, muscle aches, fever for 24 hours starting 3-9 days after the vaccine

1% need to curtail regular activities

##### More Serious Side Effects?

1 in 130,000 will get immediate hypersensitivity - rash, itching faint or asthma - this is why you need to wait 30 minutes in the clinic after vaccination.

1 per 400,000 people vaccinated will develop very severe side effects; inflammation of multiple organs e.g. brain, lungs, kidney, liver, spleen, skin, blood stream

There are reports of some persons dying from the vaccine. This is rare but some persons are more at risk of side effects than others.

#### 2 Get your vaccine from a doctor with expertise in this area

The nature of the Yellow Fever vaccine makes it *critically important* that the staff administering the vaccine are well versed in its use, especially that the doctors know who can and cannot have the vaccine safely. The clinic needs the right equipment and knowledge to safely deal with side effects.

In many countries, Yellow Fever vaccine is only given by authorized doctors who have undertaken extra training. In Australia, this is *not* the case. In Australia having the license to give yellow fever vaccine does *not* necessarily mean the doctor has any special expertise in its use.

#### 7 Questions to consider when choosing your yellow fever vaccine provider

1. Does the doctor have extra training in travel medicine and particularly the use of this vaccine?
2. Does the doctor know about the special scheduling requirements of this vaccine?
3. Does the clinic have a formal waiting policy after vaccination?

4. Is the doctor who is going to give you the vaccine on call ... to ensure that you can speak to someone if you feel you are having a reaction to the vaccine?
5. Will recording of the vaccine details be undertaken precisely?
6. Does the clinic have experience caring for the cold chain requirements of this vaccine?
7. Will batch numbers and other records of the vaccine be stored securely for at least 10 years? Replacement certification may be required many years after the vaccine is administered, so excellent records must be kept, in order that replacement certificates can be issued. Most medical records only have to be kept for 7 year. YF requires special arrangements to keep the records easily accessible for at least 10 years from your vaccination date.

Doctors in the Travel Medicine Alliance can answer yes to all these questions and have made a commitment to travel medicine by taking extra courses and study in the area of travel medicine.

To find an expert Yellow fever provider near you: go to

<http://www.travelmedicine.com.au/member-locations/>

### **3 Carry your international vaccination card when you travel**

The little yellow card is necessary to prove that you have been vaccinated.

If you cannot be vaccinated, you still need to carry a certificate of exemption which must be signed and stamped by an approved yellow fever vaccination centre.

